Get in touch
If any of our pictures bring back memories for you, let us know by emailing james.milner@reachplc.com

The Ortona bus garage at Cottenham

A business in dandelion wart-cure – 1908

A WISE woman living in a village near Newmarket does a good business in spells and charms, from wart curing to love philtres.

She has cured thousands of warts by rubbing the root of a dandelion on the hard skin to the accompaniment of some incantation gibberish.

On stormy nights she is still fondly believed by many people to go for midnight rides on a broomstick – or so claims a London paper hard up for copy during the silly season.

Bus company is finding favour – 1908

THE Ortona Motorbus Company, inaugurated a year ago, now possesses five double-deckers, a char-a-banc and a big 'bus.'

They have two services from the railway station, one to De Freville and the other to Huntingdon Road.

At the well-equipped garage on Hills Road there is always one car that can be despatched the instant a breakdown is reported and even replacing a broken axle can be carried out by their own mechanics.

Now, country people who used to disfavour these 'machinations of the evil one' patronise them with perfect confidence.

Bird-catcher granted damages – 1908

AN Isleham bird catcher caught 12 goldfinches which he kept in his kitchen.

Most died but he sent three to the railway station in a box labelled: 'Birds with care.'

These were seized by an RSPCA inspector and released.

Now he claimed damages for the loss of income.

The judge said the goldfinches were like bees and belonged to their captor. He was awarded £1.10s.

New equipment for Milton Road School – 1908

THE magnificent new schools at Milton Road, Chesterton, have been equipped with every facility for instruction.

Instead of sitting in cramped positions at unsuitable desks, the tiny tots will be accommodated with seats to suit their various sizes and their lessons based on the Froebel principle, combining amusement with instruction.

They mark a distinct advancement on elementary educational methods and the county council is to be congratulated.

Pink achievement for library – 1905

CAMBRIDGE Free Library is singularly rich in local literature due mainly to the Librarian, John Pink.

He was born some 67 years ago and is steeped in Cambridge lore.

There is little that he does not know and is always able to tell where the answer is to be found.

His catalogues testify to a conscience for detail and a zeal to make the library as comprehensive as possible.

His conscientious manner and obliging disposition are reflected in all the members of his staff.

Something fishy late at night – 1903

AN Ely fishmonger was summonsed for keeping a refreshment house open during prohibited hours.

Inspector Burton said he saw five men in the shop eating fish at 11.10pm.

There were no forms, knives or forks and they stood against the counter and ate the fish with their fingers.

One of them saw him watching, whereupon the fishman shouted: "You can't eat that fish here; you'll get me into trouble." They picked up the fish and came out of the shop.

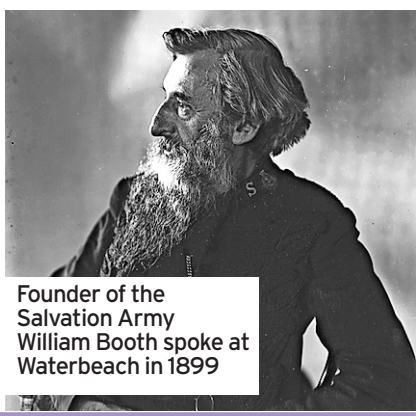
When fined 9s. he replied: "This is a cheap advertisement for me."

General speaks at Waterbeach – 1899

'THE general is coming' is the announcement that has been placarded all over Waterbeach for some weeks past.

There was no need to ask who the general was, for accompanying the announcement was a portrait of the famous General Booth.

Sunday was the day of the visit and it was a great day that will be remembered not only by Salvationists, but by members of other religious bodies who willingly paid a modest fee for the privilege of sitting on a hard form for an hour and a half and listening to a discourse from a man who has influenced so many thousands.


Founder of the Salvation Army William Booth spoke at Waterbeach in 1899

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